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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Application No.: 10/814,519

Title:	Valve for Winterizing a Pool )	Art Unit: 3753
	)	Examiner: LEE, CLOUD K.
Inventor:	Dimce Vasilev )	
	)	
Filing Date:	March 31, 2004 )	

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the  
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Commissioner for Patents  
PO BOX 1450  
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John Lagowski  
John Lagowski

This Amendment is filed within 3 months of the date of the first Office Action.

The above-identified application was filed with 20 claims.

In the first Office Action, March 6, 2006, the Examiner rejected independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 16 under 35 USC 102(b), as anticipated by *Skarzynski* (US Patent No. 3,704,002). Dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10-12, 14, 15, 17, 18, and 20 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b). And dependent claims 4, 9, and 19 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a). Applicant agrees with the Examiner's description of the *Skarzynski* disclosure; however, Applicant respectfully asserts that new claims 21-35 are allowable over *Skarzynski*.

Applicant requests further examination of the present application in view of the new claims.